

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5201

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicare program of certain mental health telehealth services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 20, 2019

Ms. MATSUI (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicare program of certain mental health telehealth services, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Telemental Health Ex-
5 pansion Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANDING THE USE OF TELEHEALTH FOR MEN-**
2 **TAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1834(m) of the Social Se-
4 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (4)(C)(i), by striking “and
6 (7)” and inserting “(7), and (8)”; and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(8) TREATMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH SERV-
9 ICES FURNISHED THROUGH TELEHEALTH.—The ge-
10 ographic requirements described in paragraph
11 (4)(C)(i) (other than applicable State law require-
12 ments, including State licensure requirements) shall
13 not apply with respect to telehealth services that are
14 mental health services (as determined by the Sec-
15 retary) furnished on or after January 1, 2021, to an
16 eligible telehealth individual at an originating site
17 described in paragraph (4)(C)(ii) (other than an
18 originating site described in subclause (IX) of such
19 paragraph).”.

20 (b) INCLUSION OF THE HOME AS AN ORIGINATING
21 SITE.—Section 1834(m)(4)(C)(ii)(X) of such Act (42
22 U.S.C. 1395m(m)(4)(C)(ii)(X)) is amended by striking
23 “paragraph (7)” and inserting “paragraphs (7) and (8)”.

24 (c) ADDITIONAL SERVICES.—As part of the imple-
25 mentation of the amendments made by this section, the
26 Secretary of Health and Human Services shall consider

1 whether additional services should be added to the services
2 specified in paragraph (4)(F)(i) of section 1834(m) of
3 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m) for authorized payment
4 under paragraph (1) of such section.

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